

Town of Benton
Select Board Meeting
Monday January 7, 2019

Select Board Members: William R. Darcy, Chair; Regina Elliott, Carol Vincelette

Also Present: Dwight Swauger, Treasurer; and Joe Boutin, road contractor and Joe (J.B.) Boutin, Chairman of Benton Board of Education.

These draft minutes of the Town of Benton Select Board are believed accurate and correct, but they are subject to additions, deletions and corrections by the Select Board at the next meeting when the Board votes its final approval of the minutes. These minutes are made available at this time to conform to the requirements of New Hampshire RSA 91-A:2.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Darcy at 6:30 PM

Member Elliott moved approval of the December 10, 2018 meeting minutes, seconded by Member Vincelette and approved.

Chairman Darcy noted the email sent by the engineers working on the Tunnel Stream Road culvert project submitted a proposed wetlands permit application and asked the Board to approve it for submission to DES. The Board agreed to authorize the Chairman to sign the permit application. The Board also agreed to have the permit application fee and engineers last invoice paid out of the Roads and Bridges Expendable Trust Fund.

The Treasurer submitted reports of expenditures compared to the budget for 2018 and estimated revenues compared to actual receipts in 2018. The Board agreed to have a budget workshop to discuss the 2019 budget in greater detail, with no decisions to be reached. Correspondence was received from Woodsville Ambulance that no fee increase would occur this year and from Primex that effectively lowered our workers compensation premium this year.

The Board agreed to a joint budget hearing with the Board of Education to be held on February 6, 2019 at 6:30 PM, with the Board of Education to publish the appropriate newspaper notice. The Board of Education Chairman Joe (J.B.) Boutin alerted the Board to a large fiscal impact of the proposed education budget for 2019-2020.

Chairman Darcy noted the Planning Board had approved proposed zoning ordinance amendments which are scheduled for public hearing on January 28. He described the amendments and noted they would have to be approved by the Town Meeting.

Treasurer Swauger noted that the operating account balance is \$331,226.13 and the ICS account has \$220,408.19.

In other business the Beautify Benton Committee agreed to pay for the floor runners for Town Hall and two cell towers were proposed for Bath and Woodstock which may help cellular telephone reception in Benton.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.